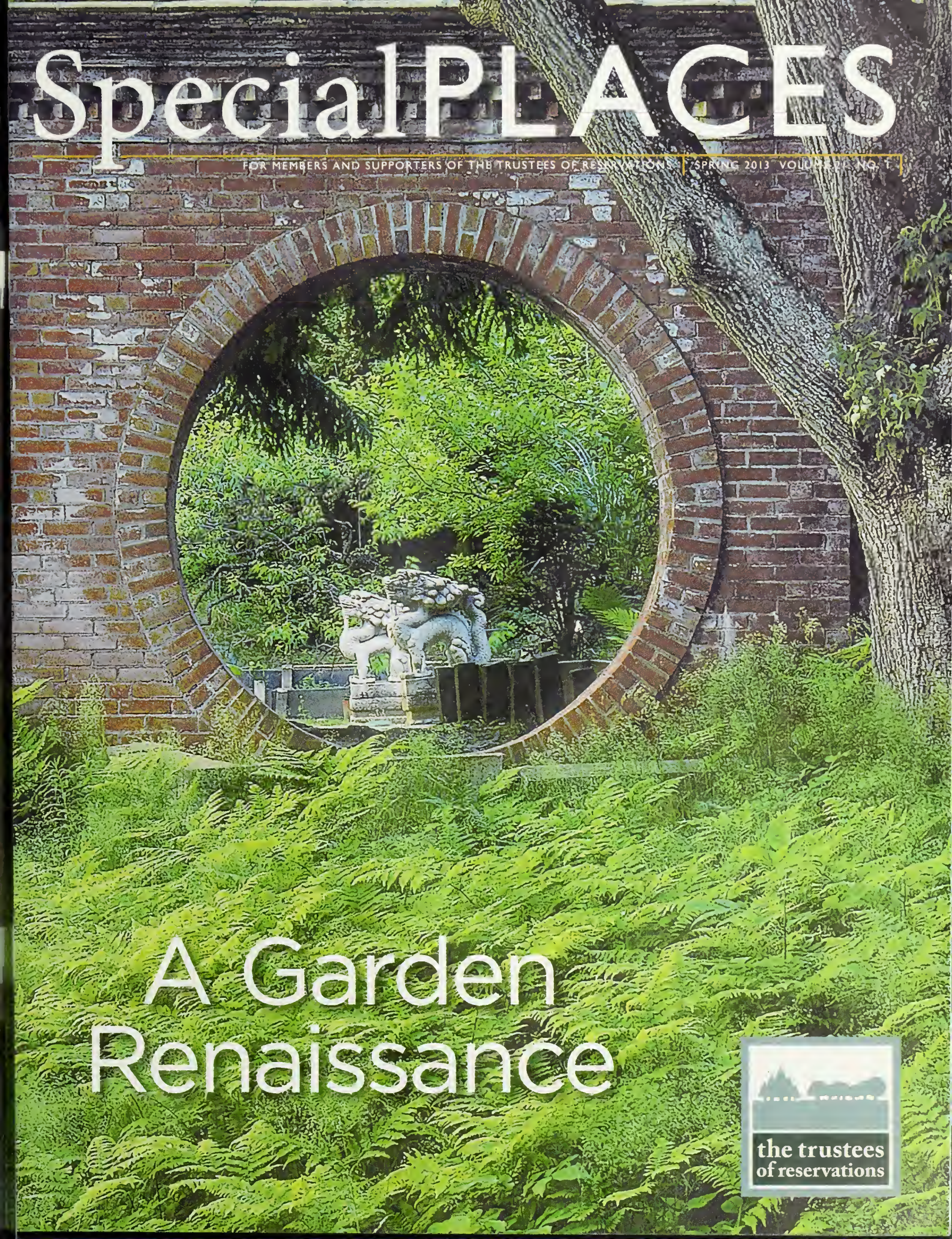
SpecialPLACES

FOR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS | SPRING 2013 VOLUME 21, NO. 1



A Garden Renaissance

the trustees of reservations

Tales from the Trail

SPRING 2013

From my window at Moose Hill Farm today, I see a broad, snow-covered field that brings to mind days of snowshoeing, skiing, and sledding with my kids – not the buds, bees, and flowers in bloom of springtime! But I hear that the groundhog saw his shadow and, if all goes right, by the time you're reading this, the breeze will be a bit milder, the grass a bit greener, and the trees just starting to stretch their limbs towards the sun's growing warmth.

At The Trustees, with the warm weather comes excitement and anticipation. Our staff and volunteers are kicking into high gear to get our properties ready for the thousands of people who will soon look to us for places to refresh and revitalize their bodies, minds, and spirits after the long winter. It's the ultimate spring cleaning – airing out our historic homes, starting seedlings in our greenhouses, clearing our trails of winter debris, and so much more, at every property, all across the state.

I know, for most of us, the idea of spring cleaning is a chore. But when your "home" is made up of 109 reservations with 270 miles of trails, five historic landmarks, seven working farms, and one of Massachusetts' most celebrated beaches, it's a joy – because we know that it's by creating wonderful and memorable experiences at our special places that we can inspire many more people to get involved and care about our vital work.

That's why I'm so excited about the spring ahead. In the weeks to come, not only will we wake up our properties across the state, we will prepare to open the gates to our newest reservation, Farandnear in Shirley, and undertake an ambitious expansion of Dover's Powisset Farm that will broaden its reach – and the reach of fresh, healthy, local food – to many more people in Dover, Boston, and beyond.

And, of course, there's the restoration of the world-renowned gardens at Naumkeag. The renovation will take place over three years, but by this summer, you'll already see a dramatic transformation as the famed Blue Steps are restored to the beauty and whimsy of their prime – just in time to celebrate their 75th anniversary.

This is the delight of our work, every day – sharing places like Farandnear, growing at places like Powisset Farm, caring for places like Naumkeag, and, most of all, welcoming many more people like you to be a part of our work. See you on the trail.

Barbara J. Erickson
President & CEO

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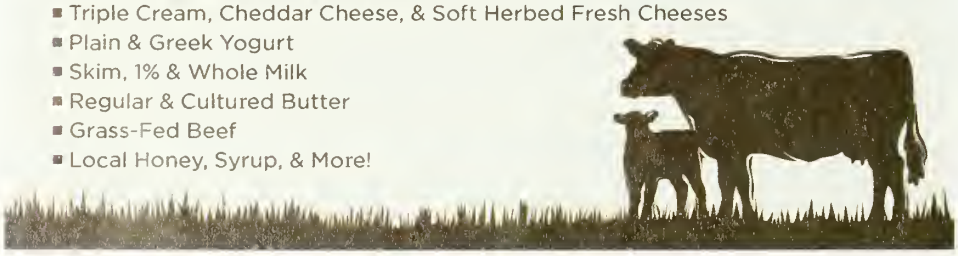

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We are more than 100,000 people like you from every corner of Massachusetts. We love the outdoors. We love the distinctive charms of New England. And we believe in celebrating and protecting them – for ourselves, for our children, and for generations to come. With more than 100 special places across the state, we invite you to find your place.

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BACK COVER

True Blue (Birds): Dedicated volunteers are helping to bring back the blues at Appleton Farms.

COVER PHOTO: Naumkeag

© R.CHEEK

LEFT: Long Hill, Beverly

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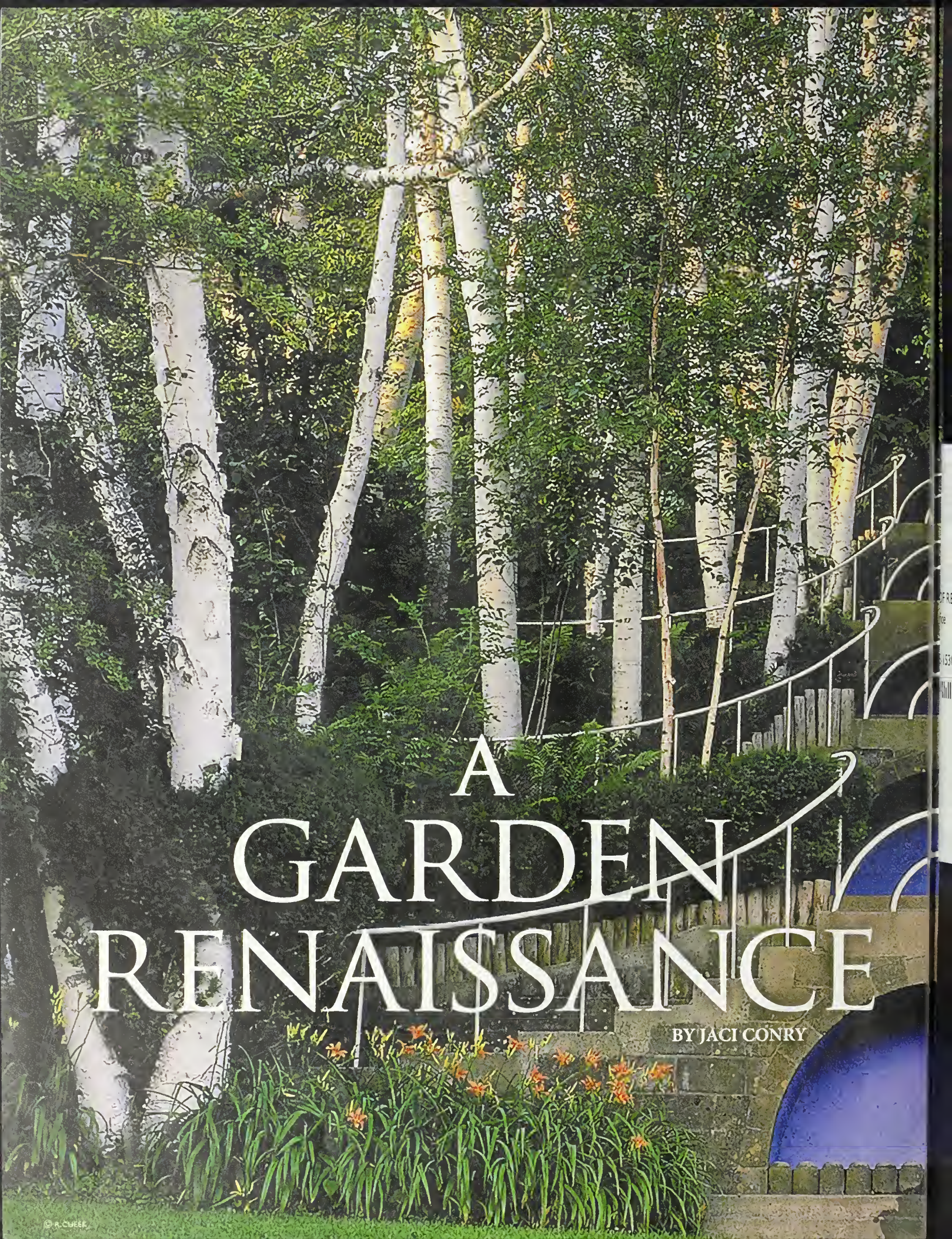

A GARDEN RENAISSANCE

BY JACI CONRY

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WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MOVE THE TRUSTEES' WORK FORWARD?

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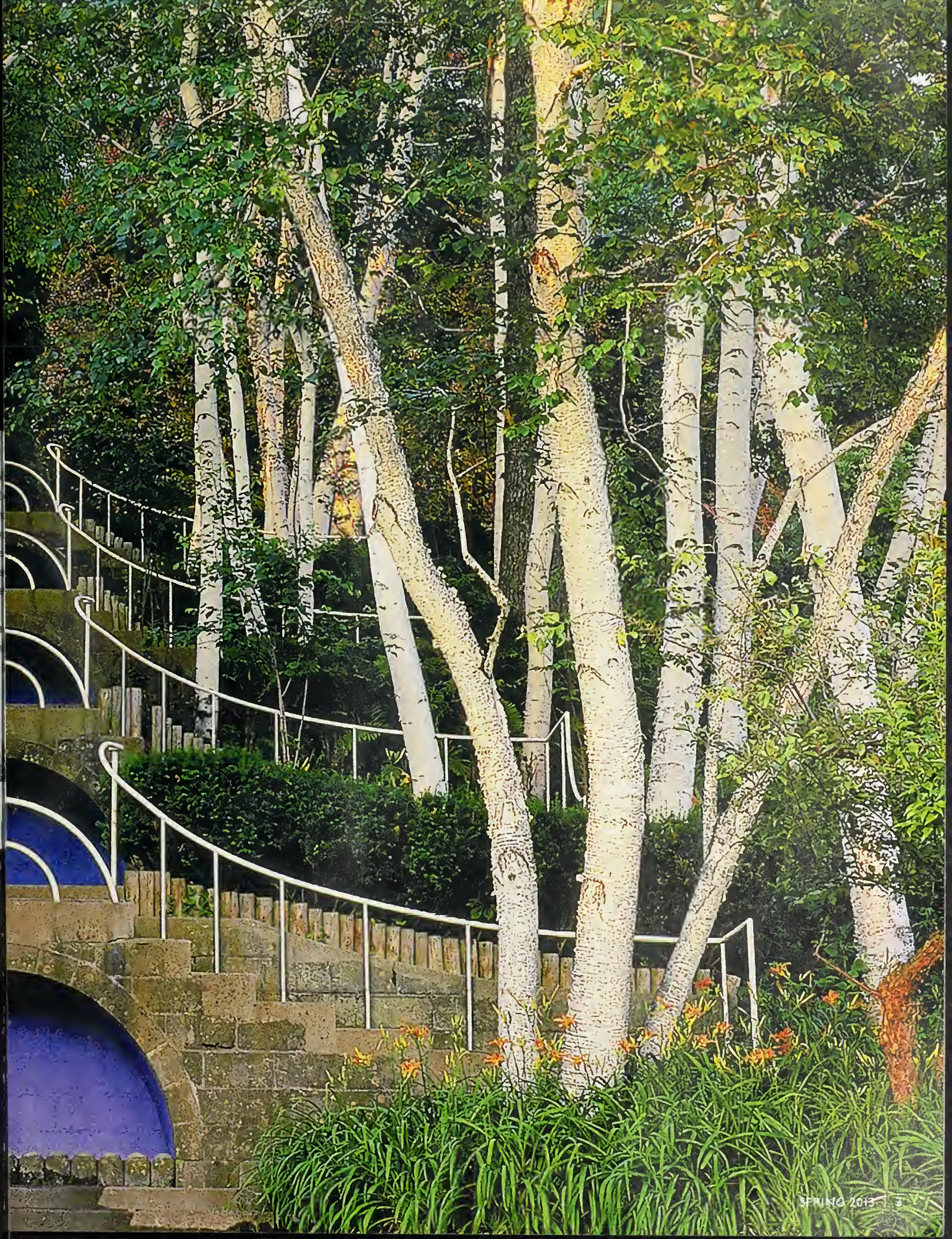


A passionate horticulturist, Mabel Choate was visiting Naumkeag, her family's country estate in Stockbridge, during the summer of 1926 when she attended a lecture hosted by the Lenox Garden Club. The speaker was Harvard-educated landscape architect Fletcher Steele, who, at the height of his success, was renowned for pushing the boundaries of Beaux-Arts formalism to modern landscape design.

Choate found Steele's artistic garden designs refreshing and inspiring. When the two met that afternoon she immediately engaged him to create an outdoor "room," like those she had encountered in California, on the grounds of Naumkeag. Steele was enthusiastic about the concept, and the two began to conceive the Afternoon Garden, a unique space off of the house's library bordered with wooden posts – pilings dug from Boston Harbor – carved and painted to resemble Venetian gondola poles. The garden's focal point: an oval of shining black glass positioned between small fountains inspired by Moorish gardens to present the illusion of a bottomless well.

"That one chance meeting resulted in 30 years of collaboration between Mabel and Fletcher," says Mark Wilson, Curator of Collections and West Region Cultural Resources Specialist for The Trustees.

By the time the Afternoon Garden was completed in 1929, Mabel had inherited Naumkeag, and she and Fletcher were immersed in re-imagining the landscape of the sprawling Gilded-Age cottage. Built in 1884 by her parents, esteemed New York attorney Joseph Hodges Choate, and Caroline, an accomplished painter, Naumkeag's exterior was eclectic and playful, a combination of Shingle-style and French-Norman features. Designed by the architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White, the house perched atop a hill on 46 acres of pasture, woodlands, and rolling lawns.

"When Mabel took over the house there were some formal flower gardens, but it was basically open grounds," says Wilson. "She had a great big open canvas to work with." Mabel and Fletcher shared a forward-thinking, lively approach to garden making. The two developed a lifelong friendship, and over the span of three decades, they transformed Naumkeag's grounds into intricately detailed, finely crafted gardens that comprise one of the most treasured landscapes in the United States.

Since Mabel's death in 1958, The Trustees have maintained Naumkeag, now a National Historic Landmark. Over the years, time has taken its toll on Naumkeag's 10 distinct garden

areas: plants are aging, masonry is crumbling, trees are overgrown, and 80-year-old water functions are withering. "We've been operating on borrowed time," says Cindy Brockway, The Trustees' Director for Cultural Resources. "Naumkeag is in dire need of a refresh."

Now thanks to the generosity of a private donor, who has pledged $1 million toward the project – a match of $1 million more must be raised – ambitious plans have been set in motion to revive the glorious landscape Fletcher and Mabel created.

The Naumkeag Garden Restoration will encompass 16 projects divided over five phases, which will occur over a span of 30 months. The first phase of the renaissance will be completed this summer, in time to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the renowned Blue Steps, Naumkeag's most famous garden.

Designed at the peak of Art Deco in 1938, the Blue Steps provided Mabel with a descent to her cutting garden. The flight of concrete and metal steps has arched blue recesses and a white handrail that ascends through paper-white birch trees. Half moons of deep blue mark each landing, and a trickling fountain follows the steps on their descent.

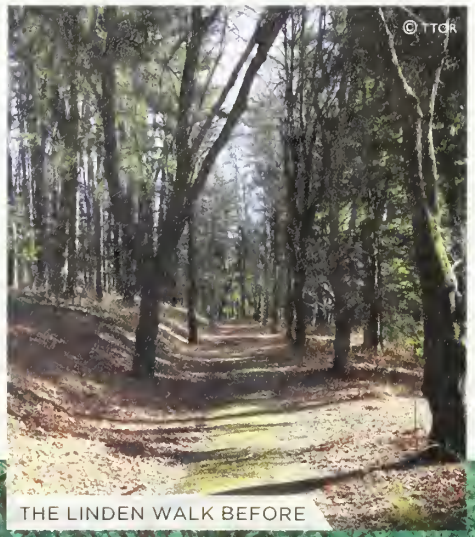
The restoration calls for the fountain water systems to be repaired, along with the extensive masonry. But for those who know the iconic Blue Steps, which are studied by landscape architecture students all over the world, the most dramatic alteration will be the planting of nearly 40 new trees. "We've looked at notes and photos and estimate that the area once had more than 75 birch trees," says Wilson. "Once we increase the number of trees it will have such a different appearance."

More trees will also be planted to fill out the Linden Allée, once a verdant walkway modeled after the wooded walks of Germany

From left: Mabel Choate in her beloved Afternoon Garden. Mabel's creative collaborator, landscape architect Fletcher Steele. **Above:** The Evergreen Garden

When Mabel took over the house there were some formal flower gardens, but it was basically open grounds...she had a great big open canvas to work with.

— MARK WILSON



THE LINDEN WALK BEFORE

Left and below: Styled after the wooded walks of Germany, the Linden Walk will be restored to allow more light and add definition to its intimate allée.

Right: In addition to the temple, the Chinese Garden's water runnels, plantings, sculpture, and moss groundcover will be brought back to reinvigorate this unique area

ARTIST RENDERING OF THE LINDEN WALK RESTORATION

and shrouded by 70 trees, which in recent years have dwindled to about 20. New plant material and restored hedges will reinvigorate the once dramatic sweeping South Lawn, and the former tennis court and pavilion will be freshened up to support a growing private event enterprise to bolster Naumkeag's financial operations.

Both with plants and visual affects, the Naumkeag gardens were an endless source of experimentation for Mabel and Fletcher. An amazing archive catalogs their ideas and decisions, along with Fletcher's original renderings and notes on his conversations with Mabel. "It's important that we continue to see the genius behind the partnership of Mabel and Fletcher but also the mutual love of gardening and experimentation with design that all went into creating such an extraordinary landscape," says Brockway. "They paid tremendous attention to detail. It's essential that the refreshed landscape reflect this precision."

Among the restoration's biggest endeavors will be the revival of the Chinese Temple Garden. "Mabel traveled extensively, and she spent time in the Orient," says Wilson. "She brought numerous items back from the region including lanterns, stone vessels, and dragons." To house her collection of Asian art Fletcher

Dig Deeper

A PLAYGROUND FOR THE IMAGINATION: Get the backstory of Fletcher and Mabel's creative collaboration in this wonderful mini-documentary from the Library of American Landscape History at www.thetrustees.org/steele

RENAISSANCE IN REAL TIME: Yes, we've just told you that the gardens [illegible] — and are getting — some serious [illegible]. But they are still pretty [illegible] as they are. Plan your visit this summer to experience this [illegible] in real time. Go to www.thetrustees.org/naumkeag

A TRUE BLUE CELEBRATION

[illegible] calendars for July 20 [illegible] the gardens [illegible] 75th anniversary of the [illegible] White Tents. A great setting, great company, and great cause — what more [illegible]

designed the Chinese Temple Garden atop an old viewing platform that once overlooked the estate's formal flower garden. Several colors of red ochre were tested before the three-sided temple's signature color was achieved. The garden's delicate features – the water runnels, plantings, sculpture, and moss groundcover – will be brought back.

And Mabel and Fletcher's first creation, the Afternoon Garden, which Mabel called her "joy and delight"?

"It's aged considerably, but the bones and structures are still there," says Wilson. The weathered gondola poles will be replaced, with the new poles carved by the same studio that created the originals; the eight-foot-high garden walls – which extend four feet underground – rebuilt; and the gracious grape arbor restored. New water systems will also be installed and the alluring glass pool, planters, and original seating will be painstakingly repaired.

Not only will the gardens be restored to their original brilliance, plans have been developed to make caring for the landscape easier. "We have a complete document for future preservations that outlines what needs to be done to maintain the landscape: when tree work needs to take place, when varieties need to be replanted, and when the decorative arts features will need conservation," says Wilson.

"It's an incredible amount of work," says Brockway. "The detailed scope of the project is bigger than we've ever done before." Considering Brockway was one of the main drivers behind The Trustees' recent three-year restoration of the Grand Allée at Castle Hill on the Crane Estate – a project that ranked as one of the most significant landscape restorations in the country of the last decade – that's quite a statement. "But, just like the Grand Allée, it's an essential undertaking for The Trustees," she continues. "We take our responsibility to care for these extraordinary places very seriously, to ensure that they're here to inspire another generation."

The grounds will remain open while the restoration is taking place. "As always, visitors are encouraged to interact with the landscape," says Brockway. "We want people to appreciate how beautiful Naumkeag is, to find their favorite spot, to have fun and really remember the experience so they'll want to come back." ■

Jaci Conry is a Cape Cod-based writer and editor, who specializes in architecture, landscape, and design. She can be reached at jaci@jaciconry.com.

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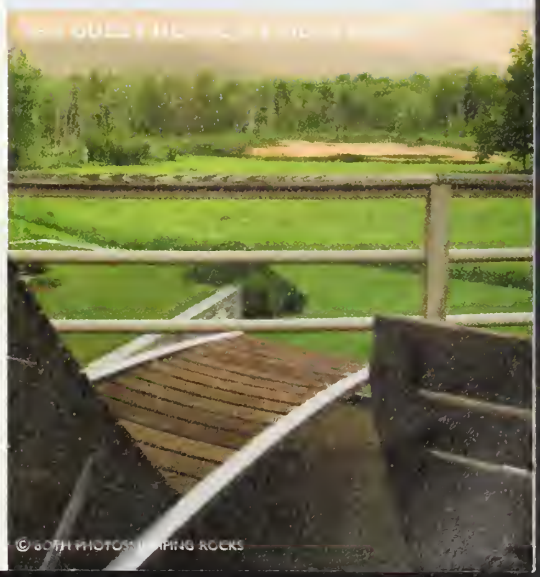

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BY ERIN BYERS MURRAY

Deep Roots

POWISSET FARM IS STEEPED IN HISTORY — AND THANKS TO AN EXCITING NEW GRANT, THIS COMMUNITY FARM WILL NOW BE MAKING HISTORY FOR YEARS TO COME.

At a glance, Powisset Farm looks like a sea of fields nestled amongst the woods and rolling hills of Dover. Tucked in a quiet suburban neighborhood with houses filled with families nearby, the 109-acre farm stands out for its huge graying barn that sits at the edge of the road and, in the distance, a greenhouse and 12 acres of plowed fields. To locals, Powisset has a legendary past. The farm was once owned by Amelia Peabody and was a well-known source of impeccably bred animals – Peabody was famed for her Hereford cattle and Yorkshire pigs. Today, the land serves the community in a different way: It's been restored as a working farm that supplies a 400-member community-supported-agriculture (CSA) program – while also serving as a resource for other local farmers. And this spring, with the help of a $450,000 grant from the Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund, this revitalized farm will launch a transformative expansion aimed at extending its reach in Dover, Boston, and beyond.

Though the land had been used as a farm for more than a century, it had sat mostly dormant for more than 20 years when The Trustees, who'd purchased it in 1984, decided to revive it as a working farm. Having launched a CSA at their Appleton Farms reservation in Ipswich in 2001, The Trustees understood the value of putting the land back to use. "The Trustees were excited to see these old farms in a new way," says farm manager Meryl LaTronica, who was hired in 2006 to start Powisset's new CSA. "They could see how captivating food and farms can be, especially today – how intensely engaging they are to people," she adds.

When LaTronica arrived, she took on the arduous task of turning the fallow land into five acres of vegetable beds in order to feed the 90 members who had signed up for the first season. Luckily, she had a 100-page management plan, created by The Trustees, to guide her in terms of how to integrate the farm into the landscape – and into the community. "The Trustees' mission is to get people connected to land," LaTronica says. "It's not just to preserve, but to preserve land that seeks to engage people and get them invested."

It didn't take long for LaTronica and The Trustees to see just how much the Powisset CSA would engage the local community. The CSA membership jumped from 90 to just under 400 in four short seasons. In that time LaTronica expanded the growing area and planted pick-your-own patches of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. The Trustees started hosting festivals at the farm in the spring and fall, which draw hundreds of people each season.

> The Trustees could see how captivating food and farms can be, especially today – how intensely engaging it is to people.
> – MERYL LATRONICA

And, Powisset became a hub of volunteerism, with both CSA and non-CSA members helping in the fields and running workshops on topics like composting and cooking. In the summer, the barn buzzes during weekly CSA pick ups, and, with a kids' area and a weekly farm stand, the property has become a happy and bustling gathering space for the community.

But Powisset's positive impacts reach well beyond Dover. LaTronica and her crew of farm hands and apprentices donate produce to food pantries in communities like Dorchester, Dedham, Medfield, and Holliston, making as many as five deliveries per week. In partnership with Bowdoin Street Health Center in Boston, CSA members have donated shares for the center's "healthy weights" program. Over the course

From left: Powisset's barn will be upgraded thanks to the grant. A family spend time in the pick-your-own patch. Meryl LaTronica (l) loads boxes of produce onto a truck destined for local food banks.

of last summer, says LaTronica, "Powisset produce was distributed to 60 families, and nutritionists from the center worked with them to review the contents and provide direction on how to best use the fresh vegetables." The farm also sold produce through the health center's Corner Store Initiative in an effort to get more local produce into the Bowdoin and Geneva street neighborhoods, which have limited access to fresh vegetables. And, in 2012, Powisset joined other vendors in the first-ever winter market in Codman Square in Dorchester.

Powisset Farm and LaTronica are also supporting the broader farming community, as farmers from across the region have access to Powisset's resources. "We have this big farm and so much space, so we're always thinking, how can we help smaller farms that don't have these resources?" says LaTronica. That might mean offering a meeting place for EMASSCRAFT, the Collaborative Regional Alliance for Farmer Training of Eastern Massachusetts, or sending a crew out to a nearby farm to help with bigger projects. LaTronica's own apprentices have gone on to start new farms (including The Trustees' CSAs at Weir River Farm in Hingham and Moose Hill Farm in Sharon) or work for established ones.

GET THE DIRT on all of the goings on at Powisset at www.thetrustees.org/powisset. Plan a visit, check out the farm stand hours, and more. And, don't forget, The Trustees have seven more working farms that you can visit across Massachusetts. Learn more at www.thetrustees.org/farms.

This spring, all of those community resources will be expanded thanks to the Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund grant. Awarded this past fall, $450,000 will be put toward projects intended to lay a stronger foundation for the farm going forward and helping it connect to even more people. With the grant, LaTronica says, "we can take that leap and put solid things in place to grow sustainably."

First and foremost, the money will help upgrade the Powisset barn by winterizing part of it, making it possible to offer year-round CSA distributions. Offices and workshop space will also be added, and the barn's second floor will be outfitted with a commercial-grade community kitchen that will be used to process some of the farm's foods. It will also act as a classroom and a usable kitchen space for other small, local farmers or food startups who want to create hand-crafted food products. "We're going to be able increase our capacity as educators and organizers," says LaTronica, "so we can reach more people through classes, workshops, and value-added products."

The money will also help fund a much-needed root cellar and the creation of raised and universally accessible pick-your-own vegetable beds. Finally, the grant "will

© T.KATES

help us reach our Boston-area farm members with a mobile farmers market," LaTronica says, in the form of a refrigerated box truck for making deliveries and selling produce. "We hope the mobile market will increase access to fresh produce for sale or donation, or by allowing us to expand the CSA membership by bringing shares into the city."

"The Fund is thrilled to support this innovative project, which is a testament to the legacy of Miss Amelia Peabody," says Evan Page, Executive Director of the Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund. "We think she would be so pleased to know that her Powisset Farm lives on today as a vibrant working farm, and a gathering place for community education and outreach."

LaTronica agrees. "We're really excited to grow the farm in deep ways," she says, adding, "If we can grow deep the next couple of years, I think we can really flourish and be a supportive hub of farming for a long time to come." ■

Erin Byers Murray is an author and freelance writer who regularly writes about food and sustainability. She lives with her husband and son in Nashville, TN.

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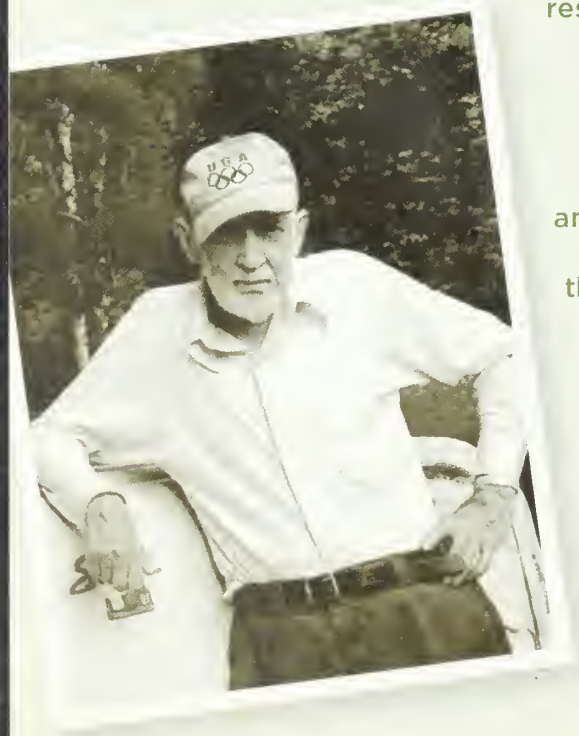
BANKING ON IT

A PROFESSOR'S BELOVED LAND IS THE TRUSTEES' NEWEST RESERVATION

BY KATHARINE WROTH

In academic circles, he was known as Professor Arthur Banks, an accomplished political scientist whose embrace of technology had earned him an international reputation. But around the town of Shirley, he was Art Banks, a lifelong resident who liked nothing more than planting pine trees, building bridges, and finding other projects that let him get his hands dirty and his mind clear.



No matter where his teaching career took him – from Washington, D.C., to Indiana, from New Hampshire to New York – Arthur Banks returned each summer to the place where he had spent his boyhood, a place that meant more to him than anything: Farandnear.

Marked by a small white sign bearing its name, the 89-acre homestead was christened by Banks's grandfather, Charles Goodspeed, who purchased its three-acre core as a summer retreat in 1902. Goodspeed, founder and proprietor of Boston's legendary Goodspeed's Book Shop, settled on the location as a suitable seasonal escape for his family, and gave it the name "Farandnear." At 50 miles from his home in Wollaston, it was "far" enough to require a two-days' journey by horse to reach, but "near" enough to be a seasonal home.

Miriam, Goodspeed's daughter, would eventually settle permanently on the site with her husband and three children, including Arthur. Over time, the family acquired more land around their beloved home, even creating a small golf course in the 1950s. The property's other unique areas include a dormant cranberry bog that had been worked communally by several local families until 1920, when industrialization made it impossible for them to compete in the market; a pine arboretum containing dozens of varieties, many planted by Banks himself; and a 10-acre parcel known locally as "Paradise,"

marked by soaring hemlocks and a rocky ravine through which Spruce Swamp Brook meanders.

Art Banks always welcomed neighbors to his property, and was so passionate about the land that the local conservation commission took to calling him the town's "ecological benefactor." In April 1994, looking toward his retirement, Banks enclosed a typewritten letter along with his annual dues to The Trustees, an organization he held in high regard. Describing the property in some detail, he asked whether the organization would consider protecting the property for future generations.

Through subsequent correspondence and site visits that spring, Banks got to know the organization's leaders, praising their "generosity of spirit," and the following year he began the process of formally protecting the land with help from The Trustees. Upon his death in 2011, he left the property to the organization, which will open the Farandnear Reservation to the public for the first time later this year, with more than three miles of walking trails.

Banks also left a portion of his household collection to the organization, including archival items related to Goodspeed's Book Shop, his grandfather's famous shop, which long employed his father as well. For nearly a century, from 1898 to 1993, this downtown Boston landmark was an unrivaled source for rare books, first editions, and art books. Among the collection Banks deeded to The Trustees is an Audubon print, a Sydney Smith engraving, a series of Goodspeed Doolittle engravings, a sketch attributed to John Ruskin, and a Goodspeed Harvard Prospect engraving.

Working closely with the Banks family, The Trustees were also able to make digital scans of many of Banks's personal photographs and papers, including plant orders and records, artwork, and maps. These materials – which will be stored at The Trustees' Archives and Research Center in Sharon – provide a rich, multi-dimensional record of the family and their time at Farandnear, as well as chronicling the dedicated, decades-long work Professor Arthur Banks undertook to make this such a rare and special place. ■

Katharine Wroth is a senior writer at Grist.org. *Her work has appeared in* Special Places *and other publications.*

TO LEARN MORE about Farandnear and its opening, visit: www.thetrustees.org/farandnear.

EVENTS: MARCH – MAY 2013

Creature Feature:
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MEMBERS: Adult/Child $4; Family $10.
NONMEMBERS: Adult/Child $6; Family $15.

Love Your Landmark: Annual Workday V
Saturday, April 27 | 9AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
413.229.8600
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Eco-Volunteers V
Thursdays, starting May 2 | 9AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
413.229.8600
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Spring Wildflower Walk
Sunday, May 5 | 1–3PM
Field Farm, Williamstown
413.684.0148
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

The Big Clean V
Thursday, May 9 | 10AM–4PM
Naumkeag, Stockbridge
413.298.3239 x3018
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Mother's Day with Wildflowers: Guided Walk
Sunday, May 12 | 10AM–12NOON
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
413.229.8600
MEMBERS: Adult/Child $4; Family $10.
NONMEMBERS: Adult/Child $6; Family $15.

Tree Peony Preview
Saturday, May 18 | 2–4PM
Naumkeag, Stockbridge 413.298.3239 x3013
Admission includes English tea in the garden, crumpets with jam, & lecture.
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $10.

Birds & Bird Songs
Saturday, June 8 | 6–10AM
Notchview, Windsor 413.684.0148
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Folly Open House
Saturday, June 8 | 12NOON–2PM
Field Farm, Williamstown 413.684.0148
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Tour the Folly
Second & fourth Saturdays, starting June 8 | 12NOON & 1PM
Field Farm, Williamstown 413.458.3135
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $5.

Father's Day Canoe Trip
Sunday, June 16 | 8:30–11:30AM
Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield
413.229.8600
MEMBERS: Adult $24; Child (age 10–16) $10.
NONMEMBERS: Adult $30; Child (age 10–16) $15.

Check www.thetrustees.org for details and dates for Yoga Adventures and Stargazing & Planet Spotting.

Let's Go Camping!

Tully Lake Campground, Royalston
Discover fantastic camping adventures close to home — just 1.5 hours from Boston and Springfield! Reserve your camp site today at www.tullylakecampground.org or call 978.249.4957 or 978.248.9455.

PIONEER VALLEY

Earth Day Work Day V
Saturday, April 20 | 9AM–1PM
Peaked Mountain, Monson 413.532.1631 x21
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Trail Work & Play with the Appalachian Mountain Club at Chapel Brook V
Saturday, April 20 | 9AM–1PM
Chapel Brook, Ashfield 413.684.0148
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Introduction to Rock Climbing with the Appalachian Mountain Club
Saturday & Sunday, April 27 & 28
Call for schedule.
Chapel Brook, Ashfield 413.527.4384
TRUSTEES & AMC MEMBERS: $60.
NONMEMBERS: $75.

Sigelman Memorial Workday V
Saturday, April 27 | 1–4PM
Little Tom Mountain, Holyoke 413.532.1631 x21
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Garlic Mustard Pull V
Saturday, May 4 | 1–3PM
Dinosaur Footprints, Holyoke 413.532.1631 x21
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Hike & Work at Petticoat Hill V
Saturday, May 11 | 9–11AM
Petticoat Hill, Williamsburg 413.532.1631 x10
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Little Tom Trail Dedication
Saturday, May 18
Little Tom Mountain, Holyoke 413.542.1631 x10
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Spring River Clean-Up V
Sunday, June 2 | 9AM–12NOON
Connecticut River, Holyoke 413.532.1631 x19
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Haiku Poetry & Spring!
Sunday, June 2 | 4–6PM
William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummington 413.684.0148
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Birding Bear Swamp
Sunday, June 9 | 7–9:30AM
Bear Swamp, Ashfield 413.684.0148
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

CENTRAL REGION

Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference V
Saturday, March 23
Conference: 8AM–4PM
Volunteers needed: 7:30AM–5PM
Worcester Technical High School, Worcester
978.840.4446 x1905
Visit www.massconservation.org for conference details.

Spring Workdays V
Sunday, April 21 &
Saturday, May 25 | 9AM–1PM
Rock House Reservation, West Brookfield
413.532.1631 x21
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

GREATER BOSTON

Includes Boston Natural Areas Network (BNAN)
www.bostonnatural.org

Old Manse Tours
Saturdays & Sundays,
March 16–May 26 | 12NOON–5PM
Tuesdays–Sundays,
May 28–October 31 | 12NOON–5PM
Monday, May 27 | 12NOON–5PM
(other Mondays by appointment)
269 Monument St., Concord 978.369.3909
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $9; **SENIOR/STUDENT:** $7; **CHILD:** (age 6–12) $5; **FAMILY:** (2 adults & up to 3 children) $25.

Teen Tuesdays on the Farm V
Tuesdays, through June 11 | 3–5PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Annual Neponset Spring Cycle at Neponset River Greenway
Saturday, March 23 | 10AM
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
Meet at Paul's Bridge, Brush Hill Road at Neponset Valley Parkway, Hyde Park/Milton line.
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Gardeners Gathering
Saturday, March 30 | 11AM–4:30PM
Boston Natural Areas Network 617.542.7696
Northeastern University,
115 & 120 Forsyth Street, Boston
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Spring Clean-Up Day at Bird Park V
Saturday, April 13 | 10AM–12NOON
Bird Park, East Walpole 508.668.6136
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Patriot's Day Open House
Monday, April 15 | 8AM–5PM
Old Manse, Concord 978.369.3909
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

April Vacation Farm Camp
Tuesday–Thursday, April 16–18
Age 4–6: 9AM–12NOON
Age 7–10: 1–4PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS: $85. **NONMEMBERS:** $108.

April Vacation Open Barnyard
Friday, April 19 | 10AM–2PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Bird Park Quest Fest
Saturday, April 20 | 1–3PM
Bird Park, East Walpole 508.668.6136
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Ecosplorations Afterschool Program
Five Wednesdays, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 3:30–5PM
Weir River Farm & World's End,Hingham
781.740.7233
All five sessions. **MEMBERS:** $48.
NONMEMBERS: $60.

The Trees of Bird Park: Guided Tree & Nature Walk
Saturday, May 4 | 10AM–12NOON
Bird Park, East Walpole 508.668.6136
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Spring Family Outings
Five Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28; June 4 | 10–11:30AM
World's End, Weir River Farm, & Norris Reservation, Hingham & Norwell 781.740.7233
All five sessions: **MEMBERS:** $48. **NONMEMBERS:** $60.

Open Barnyard at Weir River Farm
Saturdays, starting May 11 | 10AM–2PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $3.

National Trails Day at Norris Reservation V
Saturday, June 1 | 10AM–12NOON
Norris Reservation, Norwell 781.740.7233
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

National Trails Day at Rocky Woods V
Saturday, June 1 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield 508.785.0339
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Outdoor Story Hour
Wednesdays, starting June 5 | 10–11AM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $3.

World's End Summer Solstice
Friday, June 21 | 6–8:30PM
World's End, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS: $15/car. **NONMEMBERS:** $20/car.

Ice Cream Social
Saturday, June 22 | 4–6PM
Bird Park, East Walpole 508.668.6136
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Spring is in the Air!

Spring Open House
Sunday, April 7 | 1–4PM
Old Manse, Concord 978.369.3909
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Celebration of Spring
Saturday, May 4 | 10AM–2PM
Weir River Farm, Hingham 781.740.7233
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $3.

Powisset Farm Spring Festival
Saturday, May 18 (rain date: May 19) | 10AM–3PM
Powisset Farm, Dover 508.785.0339
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

© JUMPING ROCK

NORTHEAST REGION

Wednesday Workdays!
Wednesdays, starting April 3 | 9AM–12NOON
Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover
978.682.3580
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

LONG HILL
Beverly

Please pre-register for workshops at: thetrustees.org/longhill, 978.921.1944 x1825, bogrady@ttor.org

Late Winter Pruning: A Hands-On Workshop
Saturday, March 23 | 10AM–12NOON
MEMBERS: $28. **NONMEMBERS:** $35.

Learn As You Sow at the Flower Fields
Saturday, April 6 | 10–11:30AM
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Flower Field Volunteer Hours V
Thursdays, starting in April | 9–11AM
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

The Flower Field Program for Teens V
Visit www.thetrustees.org for details.
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Daffodil Day
Sunday, April 28 | 11:30AM–1PM
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: Suggested donation of $5/car.

22nd Annual Long Hill Plant Sale
Saturday, May 18
Sale: 10AM–2PM
Members-only preview: 9–10AM
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE entry.

Long Hill Children's Garden Opening Day
Wednesday, May 22 (rain date: May 23) | 3:30–5PM
Long Hill, Beverly 978.921.1944 x 1825
MEMBERS: $5/family. **NONMEMBERS:** $10/family.

Afternoons in the Children's Garden
Starting in June | 3:30–4:30PM
Visit www.thetrustees.org for details.
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $5/family.

Sustainable Lawn Care Basics & Compost Tea Workshop
Saturday, June 1 | 10–11:30AM
MEMBERS: $10. **NONMEMBERS:** $20.

CAPE ANN
Essex, Gloucester, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Marblehead & Rockport

978.921.1944 x1825, thetrustees.org/capeann, capeann@ttor.org.

Creature Feature: Salamanders & Frogs
Saturday, March 23 | 6–8PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
MEMBERS: Adult $8; Child FREE.
NONMEMBERS: Adult $10; Child FREE.

Vernal Pool Exploration/ Certification Workshop
Saturday, April 13 | 1–3PM
Agassiz Rock, Manchester
MEMBERS: Adult $8; Child FREE.
NONMEMBERS: Adult $15; Child FREE.

Wilderness to Special Place Walk: Ravenswood through the Centuries
Second Sundays, starting April 14 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
MEMBERS: FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** $5.
MOTHERS FREE ON MAY 12.

Hermit's Tales on the Trails
Friday, April 19 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
MEMBERS: $5. **NONMEMBERS:** $8.

Earth Day Coastal Clean-Up V
Saturday, April 20 | 10AM–12NOON
Coolidge Reservation & Halibut Point Reservation, Manchester & Rockport
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Spring Birding Basics
Third Sundays, starting April 21 | 8–10AM
Halibut Point Reservation, Coolidge Reservation, Rockport & Manchester
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Agassiz Rocks! Family Quest Fest
Saturday, April 27 | 1–3PM
Agassiz Rock, Manchester
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Cape Ann Adult Work Crew V
Last Saturdays, starting April 27 | 9AM–12NOON
Coolidge Reservation, Gloucester
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Curiosity Companions: Young Families Club
Five Thursdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 11AM–12NOON
Coolidge Reservation, Manchester
Price includes adult & child. All five sessions: **MEMBERS:** $25. **NONMEMBERS:** $35. **PER-DAY DROP-IN: MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS:** $10.

Young Conservationist: My Square Woods Afterschool Program (Age 9–11)
Five Thursdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 4–5:30PM
Coolidge Reservation, Misery Islands, & Ravenswood Park, Manchester & Gloucester
All five sessions: **MEMBERS:** $50. **NONMEMBERS** $75.

Lady's Slipper – Beauty & Botany
Sunday, May 19 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
MEMBERS: $5. **NONMEMBERS:** $10.

Wild Coastal Edibles Workshop
Saturday, June 1 | 9:30AM–1PM
Crowninshield Island, Marblehead
MEMBERS: $28. **NONMEMBERS:** $35.

Saving the Sweetbay Magnolia
Sunday, June 2 | 1–3PM
Ravenswood Park, Gloucester
MEMBERS: Adult $8. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $10.

Evening with the Herons
Thursday, June 27 | 6–8PM
Coolidge Reservation, Manchester
MEMBERS: $12. **NONMEMBERS:** $18.

THE CRANE ESTATE
Ipswich

For information regarding tours, events, and programs at the Castle Hill, Crane Beach, or Crane Wildlife Refuge, please visit www.thetrustees.org or call 978.356.4351 and press 6.

Seaside Wedding Show
Sunday, April 21 | 12NOON–3PM
Supporting local, sustainable wedding vendors from food to photography. Visit www.craneestate.org for details.
Castle Hill on the Crane Estate, Ipswich
978.356.4351 x4025
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS:
$10 by April 18; $15 day of show.

Spring Open House
Sunday, May 5 | 11AM–4PM
Castle Hill
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Jewels of Scandals & Desire: British Jewelry Collections & Country Houses with Curt DiCamillo
Thursday, May 9 | 6:30PM
Lecture with reception to follow. Sponsored by the Royal Oak Foundation & The Trustees.
MEMBERS: $30. **NONMEMBERS:** $40.

The Great House Revealed
Wednesdays & Thursdays, starting May 22 | 10AM–4PM
1-hour tours, starting every half hour. Last tour at 3PM.
Fridays & Saturdays | 10AM–2PM
Last tour at 1PM.
Castle Hill
MEMBERS: Adult $7; Child (age 12 & under) FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $12; Child (age 12 & under): FREE. Combined Great House & Estate tour ticket: **MEMBERS:** $9. **NONMEMBERS:** $18.

SummerQuest

SummerQuest Camp Open House
Sunday, May 5 | 11AM–4PM
Castle Hill, Ipswich 978. 356.4351 x4052
Registration now open!
www.thetrustees.org/summerquest

Castle Hill Estate Tours: The Designed Landscape
Thursdays & Saturdays, starting May 23 | 11AM–12:30PM
Castle Hill
MEMBERS: Adult $5; Child (age 12 & under) FREE. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $10; Child (age 12 & under): FREE. Combined Great House & Estate tour ticket: **MEMBERS:** $9. **NONMEMBERS:** $18.

Hot & Cold Tours: Behind the Scenes of the Great House
Every other Wednesday, starting May 29 | 5–6:30PM
Castle Hill. Pre-register at thetrustees.org.
MEMBERS: $15. **NONMEMBERS:** $20.

SAVE ON CRANE BEACH ADMISSION

Crane Beach Parking Permit Sticker Program
With our Crane Beach parking permit sticker, there's no more wrestling for cash or wondering where you put your membership card — just drive on in and enjoy the beach.

- Stickers are available to members only, so make sure your membership is up to date.
- Purchase your sticker today for just $75.
- For members not wishing to purchase a parking sticker for 2012, summer beach admission is $10 on weekdays and $20 on weekends.

Get all the details and order today at **www.thetrustees.org/cranebeach**.

Children's Treasure Hunt at the Great House
Fridays, starting in June | 11–11:45AM
Castle Hill. Pre-register at thetrustees.org
MEMBERS: Adult & one child $8.
NONMEMBERS: Adult & one child $10.
EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD: $5.

APPLETON FARMS
Ipswich & Hamilton

978.356.5728 x18

Old House Visitor Center
Wednesdays–Sundays | 11AM–3PM
Stop by for all the information you need to enjoy the farm. Visit the Appleton family museum room & library, a farm-based education classroom with seasonal displays, & a state-of-the-art kitchen where farm-to-fork workshops are held.

Mini-Moo's
Tuesdays, starting April 2 | 3–4PM
MEMBERS: Adult $4; Child $4.
NONMEMBERS: Adult $5; Child $5.

Basic Cheesemaking
Saturday, April 6 | 9AM–5PM
MEMBERS: $70. **NONMEMBERS:** $95.

Meet the Cows
Saturdays, starting April 6 | 2:30PM
MEMBERS: $4. **NONMEMBERS:** $5.

April Vacation Farmhands Crew V
Tuesday–Friday, April 16–19 | 9AM–12NOON
$25 PER CREW MEMBER.

Advanced Cheesemaking
Saturday, April 27 | 9AM–5PM
MEMBERS: $95. **NONMEMBERS:** $125.

Farm Fiddleheads
Five Wednesdays or Thursdays in May | 10–11:30AM
All five sessions: (Fee includes adult & child.)
MEMBERS: $75. **NONMEMBERS:** $90.

Evening Birding Ramble
Thursday, May 9 | 5–7PM
Appleton Farms Grass Rides, Hamilton
Pre-register with Joppa Flats. 978.462.9998
MEMBERS: $12. **NONMEMBERS:** $14.

SOUTHEAST REGION
508.636.4693 x103

Salamander Soirée
March/April (Date depends on weather)
7:30–9PM
Freetown/Fall River State Forest HQ, Slab Bridge Road, Assonet. Pre-register to get notified of date.
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Woodcock Wanderings
Saturday, March 23 | 7PM
Copicut Road, Fall River
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

New Bedford Earth Day Parade V
Thursday, April 11 | 5PM
Custom House Square, 33 William Street, New Bedford
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Planning Your Home Garden
Saturday, April 13 | 10AM–12NOON
Westport Town Farm, Westport
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Stone Wall Building Presentation
Friday, April 19 | 7:30PM
Friends Meeting House, Smith Neck Road, South Dartmouth
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Stone Wall Building
Saturday, April 20 | 9AM–12NOON
Cornell Farm, South Dartmouth. Pre-register.
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Lyman Bird Walk
Saturday, May 4 | 8–10AM
Lyman Reserve, Buzzards Bay 774.302.0779
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Birding the South Coast with Paskamansett Bird Club
Saturday, May 11 | 7AM
Watuppa Reservation, Fall River
Saturday, June 8 | 7AM
East Over Reservation, Rochester
Sunday, June 16 | 7AM
Cornell Farm, Dartmouth
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

The River Project 2012 Closing Celebration
Saturday, May 18
Slocum's River Reserve, South Dartmouth
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE

Wildflower Walk
Saturday, May 18 | 10AM–12NOON
Copicut Woods, Fall River
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Community Garden Kick-Off
Saturday, May 25 | 9AM–12NOON
Westport Town Farm, Westport
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

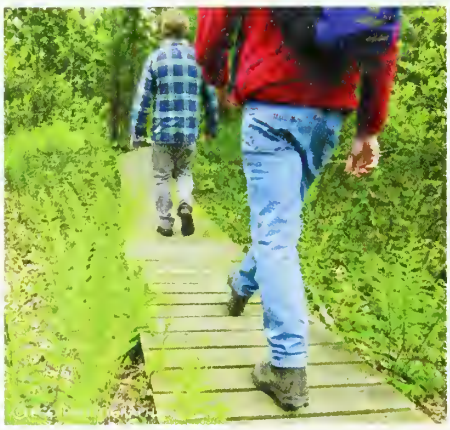
National Trails Day at Copicut Woods
Saturday, June 1 | 9AM–12NOON
Copicut Woods, Fall River
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

The Poorhouses of Massachusetts: A Cultural & Architectural History
Saturday, June 1 | 10AM–12NOON
Westport Town Library, Westport
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Pastoral Landscape Drawing
Saturday, June 8 | 10AM–12NOON
Westport Town Farm, Westport
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Flower Planting & Volunteer Day V
Sunday, June 9 | 1–3PM
Cornell Farm, South Dartmouth
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Summer Solstice by Candlelight
Friday, June 21 | 7PM
Copicut Woods, Fall River
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.



Keep Calm, Walk On!

Big Walk
Saturday, May 4 | 9AM–4PM
Strap on your hiking boots and experience the vastness of the unbroken forest on a walk that spans the 13,600-acre Southeastern Massachusetts Bioreserve.
Freetown/Fall River State Forest Headquarters, Slab Bridge Road, Assonet 508.636.4693 x103
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

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Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge

508.228.6799

Natural History Tours
Daily, starting May 15 | 9:30AM–12NOON; 1:30–4PM. 508.228.6799
MEMBERS: Adult $30; Child (age 12 & under) $15. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $40; Child (age 12 & under) $15.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, Long Point Wildlife Refuge, Mytoi, Menemsha Hills, Norton Point, Wasque

508.627.3599

Cape Poge Spring Clean-Up V
Saturday, March 30 | 10AM–12NOON
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge 508.693.7662
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Norton Point Spring Clean-Up V
Saturday, April 20 | 10AM–12NOON
Norton Point Beach 508.693.7662
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Mytoi Spring Clean-Up V
Saturday, May 4 | 9AM–12NOON
Mytoi 508.627.3599
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Long Point Beach Spring Clean-Up V
Saturday, May 18 | 10AM–12NOON
Long Point Wildlife Refuge 508.627.3599
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

Cape Poge Lighthouse Tour
Daily, starting May 27
Visit www.thetrustees.org for schedule.
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge 508.627.3599
MEMBERS: Adult $20; Child (age 15 & under) $12. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $25; Child (age 15 & under) $12.

Cape Poge Natural History Tour
Daily, starting May 27
Visit www.thetrustees.org for schedule.
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge 508.627.3599
MEMBERS: Adult $25; Child (age 15 & under) $18. **NONMEMBERS:** Adult $35; Child (age 15 & under) $18.

Self-Guided Poucha Pond Kayak Tour
Daily, starting May 27 | 9AM–4PM
Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge 508.627.3599
Members only. **FIRST HOUR:** $20/single boat; $30/tandem boat. **EACH ADDITIONAL HOUR:** $10.

National Trails Day V
Saturday, June 1 | 10AM–12NOON
Menemsha Hills 508.627.3599
MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS: FREE.

OUTDOOR SCHOOL
© P.DAHM

Learn something new and enjoy your favorite Trustees reservation at the same time on these special REI Outdoor School programs. For more information and to register, visit www.thetrustees.org/REI.

Backcountry Navigation with GPS
REI MEMBERS: $60. **NONMEMBERS:** $80.
Saturday April 27 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Introduction to Map & Compass Class
REI MEMBERS: $60. **NONMEMBERS:** $80.
Saturdays, March 30, April 13, May 11, June 1 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Introduction to Outdoor Photography: Compostion & Techniques
REI MEMBERS: $65. **NONMEMBERS:** $85.
Saturdays, May 18, June 1 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods Medfield

Essential Camping Skills Class
REI MEMBERS: $40. **NONMEMBERS:** $60.
Saturdays, April 27, May 18, June 22 | 9AM–3PM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Introduction to Mountain Biking
REI MEMBERS: $65 **NONMEMBERS:** $85.
Saturdays April 20, June 8 | 9AM–3PM
May 11 | 10AM–4PM
Rocky Woods Medfield

Introduction to Trail Running
REI MEMBERS: $15. **NONMEMBERS:** $35.
Saturdays, March 30; April 13, 20; May 11, June 8 | 9–10AM
Rocky Woods, Medfield

Kayak Tour: Boston Harbor
REI MEMBERS: $120. **NONMEMBERS:** $140.
Price includes lunch.
Saturday, May 25 | 9AM–3PM
World's End, Hingham

Learn to Kayak: 3-Hour Class
REI MEMBERS: $70. **NONMEMBERS:** $90.
Saturdays, May 18, June 1 | 9AM–12NOON & 1–4PM
Charles River Peninsula, Needham
Meet at DCR's Red Wing Bay kayak launch off Fisher Street.
Saturday, June 22 | 9AM–12NOON & 1–4PM
World's End, Hingham

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True Blue (Birds)

What could a pipe-organ builder and a curatorial assistant at Harvard's famed Herbaria have in common? As it turns out, a lot: a love of conservation, volunteering, Appleton Farms, and bluebirds. Pals Danielle Hanrahan and Rick Isaacs give hours of their time weekly monitoring the 75 bluebird nest boxes — built in response to dwindling songbird habitat — at the farm. Thanks to their enthusiastic vigilance, more than 100 healthy fledges are welcomed into the world each season.

Visiti **www.thetrustees.org/bluebirds** to learn more about Danielle and Rick, and our many other bluebird-box monitors across the state.

FIND YOUR PLACE

Together with our neighbors, we protect the distinct character of our communities and inspire a commitment to special places. Our passion is to share with everyone the irreplaceable natural and cultural treasures we care for.

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